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File  
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CLASSIFICATION

COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

TOPIC Volkspolizei Units in Weissenfels

25X1 EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT August 1950

25X1 DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 9 October 1950

25X1 REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Prior to 10 August 1950 the VP units in Weissenfels (M 52/J 99) totaled about 1,200 police. It was said that the original cadre personnel of the Weissenfels VP post and a VP unit with two 75-mm AT guns had moved to Burg (M 53/Y 81).
2. The VP units in Weissenfels were exclusively engaged in infantry training, with emphasis on training with model 42 machine guns, assault rifles and mortars. The combat training was in accordance with the German Army manuals. A VP platoon marching out of the post consisted of the platoon leader, 3 squad leaders, 3 Kommissar candidates and 30 enlisted police. \*

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4. In August 1950 the 5th VP Bereitschaft, an infantry unit of about 1,000 men, was located in Weissenfels. Its officers included VP-Obertrat Nickel (fnu), commanding officer of the Bereitschaft, a member of the VVN (Association of Victims of Nazism); VP-Kommissar Kau (fnu), adjutant; VP-Oberkommissar Loebert (fnu), PK-Leiter and athletic officer, a former member of the SED headquarters in Land Sachsen-Anhalt; and VP Kommissar

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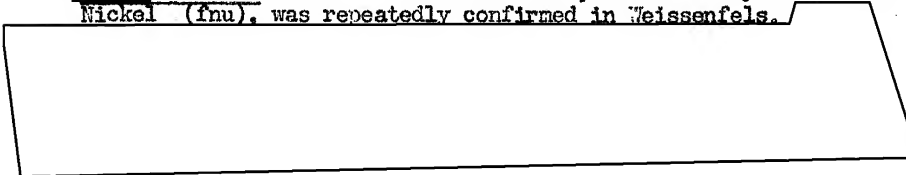
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5. The VP Bereitschaft was armed with model 98-K carbines, light and heavy machine guns and submachine guns of Soviet and German origin. It was equipped with 16 personnel carriers.
6. Most of the personnel of the Bereitschaft came from the southern portion of Land Saxony-Anhalt and from eastern Saxony. They averaged 20 years of age. Their morale was good and their standard of political indoctrination excellent.
7. An Abteilung for the training of 120 VP officer candidates has recently been observed with the 5th VP Bereitschaft. \*

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\*  Comment. The 5th VP Bereitschaft, commanded by VP-Oberrat Nickel (fnu), was repeatedly confirmed in Weissenfels.

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